IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for electroblowing ~~fibers~~ nanofibers comprising:

forcing a polymer fluid through a spinneret in a first direction towards a collector located a first distance from said spinneret, to form ~~fibers~~ submicron diameter nanofibers, while simultaneously blowing a gas through an orifice that is substantially concentrically arranged around said spinneret, wherein said gas is blown substantially in said first direction to contact the ~~fibers~~ nanofibers;

wherein an electrostatic differential is generated between said spinneret and said collector; and

collecting the ~~fibers~~ nanofibers;

wherein said polymer fluid comprises a member selected from the group consisting of hyaluronan, copolymers of hyaluronan and mixtures thereof.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said collecting is performed by applying shear and elongational forces on the polymer fluid between said spinneret and said collector to further stretch the polymer fluid and deposit the submicron sized ~~fibers~~ nanofibers on the collector.

Claim 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said polymer fluid is a polymer melt.

Claim 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said polymer fluid is a polymer-containing solution comprising a polymer and a solvent.

Claim 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said polymer-containing solution comprises a mixture of two or more polymers and one or more solvents.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said polymer fluid comprises a polymer suspension comprising a polymer and a solvent, optionally comprising suspended particles.

Claim 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said polymer suspension comprises a mixture of two or more polymers and one or more solvents, optionally comprising suspended particles.

Claim 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electrostatic differential is generated by applying an electrostatic potential between said spinneret and said collector.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electrostatic differential is generated by applying an electrostatic potential to a secondary electrode and said collector.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said gas is a member selected from air, nitrogen, reactive gases, inert gases and mixtures thereof.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said gas is air.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said gas is heated.

Claim 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said gas is cooled.

Claim 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said gas is cooled to a temperature in a range from -50°C to 350°C.

Claims 15-17. (Cancelled).

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said polymer fluid is a hyaluronan-containing solution comprising a solvent and from 0.01 to 8 wt % of a member selected from the group consisting of hyaluronan, copolymers of hyaluronan and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said solvent comprises a member selected from the group consisting of water, minimal essential medium (Earle's salts), chloroform, methylene chloride, acetone, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, dimethylformamide (DMF), tetrahydrofuran (THF), methanol, ethanol, 2-propanol, dimethylacetamide (DMAc),

N-methyl pyrrolidone, acetic acid, formic acid, hexafluoro-2-propanol (HFIP), hexafluoroacetone, 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, glycerol, low molecular weight poly(ethylene glycol), low molecular weight paraffins, low molecular weight fluorine-containing hydrocarbons, low molecular weight fluorocarbons , and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electrostatic differential is from 1 to 100 kV.

Claim 21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said electrostatic differential is from 15 to 50 kV.

Claim 22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said electrostatic differential is from 30 to 45 kV.

Claim 23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said gas is blown at a rate of up to the velocity of sound.

Claim 24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said gas is blown at a rate of up to 300 SCFH.

Claim 25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said gas is blown at a rate of from 10 to 250 SCFH.

Claim 26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein said gas is blown at a rate of from 30 to 150 SCFH.

Claim 27. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said gas is heated to a temperature of up to 350°C.

Claim 28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said gas is heated to a temperature of from 25 to 120°C.

Claim 29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein said gas is heated to a temperature of from 40 to 90°C.

Claim 30. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said gas is cooled to a temperature of down to -100°C.

Claim 31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said gas is cooled to a temperature in the range of from -50 to 25°C.

Claim 32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein said gas is cooled to a temperature in the range of from -20 to 10°C.

Claim 33. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a charge density of said polymer fluid is increased by injection of electrostatic charges into said polymer fluid.

Claim 34. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said collector is maintained at a temperature in the range of from -20 to 80°C.

Claim 35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said gas is blown at a rate and a temperature sufficient to cause substantial evaporation of said solvent prior to the ~~fibers~~ nanofibers reaching said collector.

Claim 36. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electrostatic differential is generated by application of an electrostatic potential in proximity to said collector and on a side of said collector opposite to said spinneret.

Claims 37-40. (Cancelled)